

BIOGRAPHY

Arthur Gignilliat Porcher III is an American systems analyst, writer, and independent historian whose life reflects a convergence of personal resilience, family legacy, and institutional critique. His work spans healthcare administration, addiction recovery, financial systems, digital sovereignty, and regional cultural history, all grounded in lived experience and methodical introspection.

Early Life and Background

Porcher was born at the U.S. Army Infirmary at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, and christened two months later at Pohick Episcopal Church in Falls Church, where his godparents were Fuller Earl Callaway III and Naomi Webb Green.

He was raised on Florida's Atlantic coast during the height of the Space Race. His father, a West Point engineer, helped establish ground operations at NASA's Kennedy Space Center, and their close relationship shaped his sense of discipline, technical precision, and continuity across generations. His mother, a New York Ballet trained social figure from Mobile, Alabama, was closely connected to several of the original Mercury astronauts. Their home off South Patrick Drive hosted gatherings that placed him in proximity to astronauts, media figures, military and civilian engineers throughout the 1960s.

From an early age, Porcher witnessed missile and shuttle launches from press areas and local beaches, forming an enduring connection between technological ambition and personal orientation. At age eleven he sailed and water-skied with Original Seven astronaut Wally Schirra. During multiple flooding storms that struck the Space Coast in 1967 and again during Hurricane Gladys in 1968, Astronaut Chief Deke Slayton helped him deliver the new TODAY newspaper in his Corvette.

Education and Professional Career

Porcher holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (Management, 1977) and a B.A. in Psychology (1991) from the University of Central Florida. His professional career combined variety with consistent responsibility in banking, citrus operations, construction, healthcare management, and nonprofit organizations. He served as branch manager at a pre-deregulation savings and loan, assistant general manager of a top-selling Indian River citrus operation, president at a large construction firm, and business director for multi-location healthcare practices.

He also worked extensively in nonprofit rehabilitation, including as controller for a Seattle-based substance abuse facility and as a counselor at an adolescent treatment

center in Orlando. He co-authored *Helping Chronically Addicted Adolescents*, published by McGraw-Hill in 1993.

His technical credentials include systems consulting, database and accounting infrastructure, and early adoption of integrated computer tools in healthcare, human services, and finance. He is a licensed single-engine pilot, a SCUBA diver and experienced offshore sailor, having navigated extensively through the Bahamas, Polynesia, and the Virgin Islands.

Writing and Research

Porcher developed personal archives documenting the Porcher family's Huguenot roots, their 19th-century role in Florida's citrus expansion, and their mid-20th century influence during the aerospace era. These records serve as both source material and ethical anchor for his writing.

He published essays on Substack, where he reflects on historical cycles, civic psychology, and institutional behavior. After decades of research, he authored *Dear Family*, a privately distributed multi-generational narrative tracing forty-four generations of Porcher ancestry, blending genealogical record with historical reflection. His submission to the Huguenot Society of South Carolina includes a detailed report identifying seventeen direct Huguenot ancestors from France and Switzerland, underscoring the family's foundational presence in early colonial South Carolina.

He also documents in his ancestry numerous colonial founders and first colonists across early America. In the Province of Virginia, direct ancestors were among the earliest at Jamestown in 1607, with others settling in Henrico by 1611, Charles City in 1619, and York County by 1634, and later arrivals in Nansemond, Rappahannock, Richmond, and Caroline. Direct ancestors were aboard the *Mayflower* in Plymouth Colony in 1620, and additional lines established at Duxbury and Barnstable, as well as in Massachusetts Bay at Roxbury, Boston, Ipswich, and Essex during the 1630s. In Connecticut Colony, lines are recorded at Windsor in 1633 and Hartford in 1636, extending to Fairfield, Stamford, Norwalk, and Waterbury, while another branch settled in New Haven in 1638. In Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, ancestors arrived at Newport in 1639 and Warwick in 1642. Further lines established themselves in the Province of Maryland, beginning with Somerset in 1666 and later Cecil, Baltimore, and Wicomico. In the Province of Carolina, ancestry includes founders of Charles Town in 1670 and St. James Santee Parish in 1685. Beyond the mainland, one ancestral line settled in Barbados in 1627.

Creative, Technical, and Horticultural Work

Porcher pursued a wide range of hands-on disciplines in parallel with his professional work. As an amateur artist, he completed a series of oil paintings using a self-built hardwood floor easel and hand-selected professional materials. His interest in self-sufficiency and design extended to gardening, where he constructed a functioning double-tower aeroponic garden and multiple raised-bed garden systems for private food production.

His experience with computers began in 1983 with an Apple IIe and modem access. He founded Third Wave Corporation in 1984, serving as a value-added reseller and consultant in the Pacific Northwest. The firm automated accounting systems and reporting structures for legal and healthcare practices before commercial networking became widespread. His resume documents extensive experience with software and infrastructure, including database design, accounting platform conversion, and client-specific reporting logic across a wide range of early and mid-1990s systems.

Transformational Work and Emotional Architecture

While President of the construction company, Porcher became a founding investor and board treasurer of the Personal Development Institute in Central Florida, the successor to the successful Center for Living Skills. The Institute delivered structured transformational seminars rooted in “Cognitive Recognition,” a method of guided awareness and emotional clarity designed to improve decision-making, stress management, and relationships. The program traced its lineage to Werner Erhard’s EST model of the 1970s, revised to remove its cultish elements, and emphasized disciplined self-reflection in safe, highly structured group settings.

Porcher aligned this work with his recovery worldview, recognizing its power to untangle emotional burdens and foster responsible choice-making. These seminars provided intensive experiential learning in group dynamics, emotional boundary management, and self-regulation. They reinforced his belief that personal sovereignty and coherent storytelling are essential to long-term resilience.

His experiences in this period emphasized spirituality over dogma, the cycle of inspiration and clarity, and the reframing of compromise as conscious choice. These lessons became foundational to his later theories of generational maturity, institutional critique, and narrative inheritance, and shaped his longform works such as *Dear Family* and his later reflections on transformational ethics.

Personal Philosophy

Porcher identified with Generation Jones, the cohort born between the mid-1950s and mid-1960s. He saw it not as a trend but as a cultural marker shaped by institutional mistrust, transitional values, and early interaction with emerging technologies. The generational frame clarified his alignment with individual responsibility over group identity and his focus on tools of independence rather than symbols of status.

His worldview centers on accountability, decentralization, and intergenerational trust. He sees Bitcoin as a tool for moral clarity and structural independence, not as speculation but as a reserve of continuity. He emphasizes moral realism over institutional loyalty, choosing legacy not as performance but as function.

His support for child and adolescent development, free from dogma but rooted in self-awareness and discipline, reflects both his professional background and personal transformation. He views personal sovereignty and coherent storytelling as essential to long-term cultural resilience.

Raised as a traditional Episcopalian, he later chose confirmation at Saint Michael's Episcopal Church in Orlando in 1995, aligning more with his preference for independent moral structure over institutional loyalty.

Legacy

Porcher is compiling written, digital, and visual material for open release, with the intent of creating a lasting record and usable inheritance for future generations. His work does not merely preserve family history; it recasts it as a toolkit for orientation, stewardship, and resistance. Public genealogy profiles associated with his research are maintained under FamilySearch ID LT61-95B, WikiTree ID Porcher-65, and MyHeritage ID 698389221.